

FINANCE AND TRADE

Speculation Dwindles Into Small Proportions.

BEAR BROKERS BUYING ON CONCESSIONS

Contradictory Advices Received

GENERAL MARKET REPORTS

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17.—Speculation this morning dwindled into a professional interchanging of securities at fractional profits. There was no real business in sight and the most anxious to mark up prices at the orders as to make a stock of selling impossible. It was the continued movement of brokers for prominent bear operators buying in stocks at every concession, and considerable short stock was covered during the two hours of business.

There was no important news to influence the course of prices, and fluctuations were the result of a combination of room traders following out a preconcerted plan to scalp the market. The narrowness of speculation is still as pronounced as it was at the beginning of the week, and will probably show no signs of improvement while the House bill is an unpractical quantity, both as to its merits and its practical operation.

The Washington advance is contradictory on all the essential points, and is unable to serve alternately the purposes of both bulls and bears. Their interests are all at sea as to what the final result may be applicable to that commodity will be, but the weight of argument at the moment seems to be against the bill. The situation is so complex and contested equally so far as the expediency of the House bill is concerned.

The situation in the west is not encouraging, and traders generally are bearish on railroads running through that section. The recent severe depression in wheat has lost the railroad earnings much power of the west that railroad earnings now depend to a great extent reflect the falling off in traffic due to the drought.

Liquidation of railway shares that many country owners have taken protection to grain operations has not materialized, but conditions have not yet reached such an extent of making such a venture unlikely.

Chicago Gas is again threatened with a new scheme vapor as the company, but political and stock jobbing that there is no prospect of their being successful.

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The statement in detail is as follows:

Deposits	decreased	\$1,090,675;		
loans	increased	\$743,300; specific decreased	\$9,212;	
loans	decreased	\$2,630,200;		
deposits	increased	\$1,000,000; and circulation	decreased	\$447,200.

Wheat continues firm with no increase in demand and continued scarcity of all classes of commercial paper.

Wheat Dull, but Firm.

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—Wheat was dull to-day, but firm on better cables and smaller receipts. Trading was light, which prevented a marked advance. May wheat opened unchanged at 58 3-4, and after declining 1-8, advanced to 59 1-2. A little buying sent the price down 1-2 and May held steady near 59.

The following are the opening, the highest and the lowest and the closing prices of the New York stock market today, as reported by Corson & Laccartney, members New York stock exchange, correspondents Messrs. Moore & Selig, No. 50 Broadway:

Stocks	Open.	High.	Low.	Close
American Sugar	80	80	79 3/4	79 3/4
American Sugar, pfd.	92	92	92	92
American Tobacco	71 1/2	71 1/2	71 1/2	71 1/2
American Cotton Oil	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2	18 1/2
Atchafson	50 1/2	50 1/2	50 1/2	50 1/2
Canada Southern	100	100	100	100
Canada Pacific	100	100	100	100
Chesapeake and Ohio	100	100	100	100

Illinois and Northwestern	109%	109%	109%	109%
Chicago Gas	64%	64%	64%	64%
M. and St. Paul	67%	67%	66%	66%
M. and St. Paul, pfd.	.....	.....	.....	.....
R. I. and Pacific	.....	.....	.....	.....
Del., Lack. and W.	.....	.....	.....	.....
Delaware and Hudson	136	136	136	136
Denver and Rio Grande	81%	81%	81%	81%
..... and Cattle Feeding	29	29	27	26
General Electric	86%	86%	86%	86%
Illinois Electric	.....	.....	.....	.....

Kansasville and Nashville.....	40%	40%	40%	40%
Long Island.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
N. A. and Chicago.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Manhattan Elevated.....	150	150%	150	150%
Michigan Central.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Missouri Pacific.....	22%	22%	22%	22%
National Lead Co.....	20%	20%	20%	20%
National Cordage Co.....	15%	15%	15%	15%

	1964	1965	1966	1967
New York Central.....	96%	96%	96%	96%
E. Y. and New England.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
E. Y. C. and St. Louis.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Northern Pacific.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Northern Pacific, pfd.....	17%	17%	17%	17%
North American.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ont. and Western.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pacific Mail.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Phil. and Reading.....	21%	21%	21%	21%
Pullman P. Car Co.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Richmond Terminal.....	4	4	0%	0%
Northern Pacific.....	96%	96%	96%	96%
Northern Pacific, pfd.....	17%	17%	17%	17%
North American.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ont. and Western.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pacific Mail.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Phil. and Reading.....	21%	21%	21%	21%
Pullman P. Car Co.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Richmond Terminal.....	4	4	0%	0%
Northern Pacific.....	96%	96%	96%	96%
Northern Pacific, pfd.....	17%	17%	17%	17%
North American.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ont. and Western.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pacific Mail.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Phil. and Reading.....	21%	21%	21%	21%
Pullman P. Car Co.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Richmond Terminal.....	4	4	0%	0%

Abnash	12%	12%	12%	12%
Abnash, pfd	46%	46%	46%	46%
Abnash & Lake Erie	82%	82%	82%	82%
Abnash & L. E., pfd.	64%	64%	64%	64%
Abnash Union Tel.				
Abnash Central				
Abnash				

Sales—regular call—12 o'clock m.—Riggs Fire Insurance, 30 at 7. National safe deposit, 10 at 30%.

Government Bonds.—United States 4s, registered, 67, 1133, bid, 1144 asked. United States 4s, coupon, 1907, 1133, bid, 1144 asked.

District of Columbia Bonds.—30-year Funding 6s, 90% bid. Waterstock currency Ts, 1901, 115 bid. 3-year Funding 6s, gold, 116% bid. Water stock currency Ts, 1903, 120 bid 3.00s. Funding currency, 110 bid 3%¹/₂, reg. 2-10s, 100 bid.

Miscellaneous Bonds.—Washington and George.

121. *ibid.*, 150. *ibid.* Masonic Hall Association *8a*, 105.
 122. *ibid.* Washington Market Company 1st *6a*, 105.
 123. *ibid.* Washington Market Company 1mp. *6a*, 105.
 124. *ibid.* Washington Market Company ext. *6a*, 105. *ibid.*
 125. *ibid.* American Security and Trust *6a*, 1905. *A. & O.*,
 190. *ibid.* American Security and Trust *6a*, 1905.
 126. *ibid.* *A. & O.*, 100. *ibid.* Washington Light Infantry 1st
6a, 100. *ibid.* Washington Light Infantry 2d *6a*,
 100. *ibid.* Washington Gas Company *6a*, series *A*.

asked. Baltimore and Annapolis Railroad 5a, 100 asked.
asked. 144 asked. Elington Railroad 5a, 100 asked.
Baltimore and Potomac Telephone 5a, 108 asked.
Capital and North O Street Railroad 5a, 55 bid.
asked. Metropolitan Railroad conv. 5a, 101 bid.
asked. United States Electric Light conv. 5a,
123 1/2 bid, 126 1/2 asked.
National Bank Stocks.—Bank of Washington, 300
asked. Bank of America, 240 bid, 245
asked. Metropolitan, 265 bid. Central, 205 bid.

100 bid. Western Road, 100g bid.
 100 bid. Lincoln, 914 bid.
 100 bid. Washington and Georgetown
 100 bid. 300 asked. Metropolitan, 35 bid, 35 asked.
 100 bid. Columbia, 150 bid.
 100 bid. 18 bid. Eckington and Soldiers' Home, 15
 100 bid.
 Insurance Stocks.—Firemen's, 42 bid. Franklin,
 100 bid, 50 asked. Metropolitan, 75 bid. National
 100 bid, 77 asked. Arlington, 132 bid, 130 asked.
 100 bid. 100 bid. Columbia, 150 bid. German
 100 bid. 153 bid. Potomac, 55 asked. Riggs,
 100 bid. 74 asked. People's, 84 bid, 84 asked.
 100 bid.
 Title Insurance Stocks.—Real Estate Title, 110

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